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NS-US035155

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Shigeki UCHIYAMA

Serial No.: 10/761,460

Filed: January 22, 2004

For: ENGINE AIR INTAKE MANIFOLD

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Patent Art Unit: 3747

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

I hereby certify that each item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of European Search Report of the corresponding European Application No. 04002478.8 is attached hereto.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

No fee is believed to be required in view of the above certification. However, Applicant authorizes the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to charge payment of the Petition fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) ***if required*** and any other fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836.

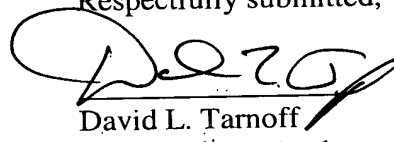
German Patent Publication No. 42 35 075 appears to disclose an intake manifold having bypass lines 11 as seen in Figure. The European search report indicates that the abstract, column 2, line 18 – line 65 and Figures 1 and 2 are relevant to this application. An English abstract of this publication is provided to better understand this reference.

German Patent Publication No. 197 57 986 appears to disclose an intake manifold. The European search report indicates that the whole document is relevant to this application. An English abstract of this publication is provided to better understand this reference.

European Patent Publication No. 1 122 421 appears to disclose an intake manifold with an integrated gas recirculation system. The European search report indicates that the abstract, column 5, paragraph 20 – column 6, paragraph 23 and Figures 1 and 2 are relevant to this application. This publication corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,442,221 which can be referenced to better understand this reference.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Tarnoff
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 32,383

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Substitute for form 1449.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/761,460

Filing Date

January 22, 2004

First Named Inventor

Shigeki Uchiyama

Group Art Unit

3747

Examiner Name _____

Attorney Docket Number

NS-US035155

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.